

Chanel Miller, Author, *Know Your Name: A Memoir*

Right now, I fear that a lot of young students will have nowhere to go to. Students do not have time to take on three year and seven month long legal battles. When the maximum 60-day recommendation for investigations is lifted, students will have to enter a process that has no foreseeable ending. They will be subjected to cross examination, which is presented as a sophisticated verbal, surgical procedure to extract the truth, when really it is ravaging. The questions the defense attorney asked were leading, never open ended, more interested in eroding confidence and seeding self doubt than it was about clarifying what happened. I compare it to having my shoelaces tied together and being forced to run. Betsy Devos has written clear guidelines on how to get away with assault. By discounting any assaults that happen off-campus, she has effectively created safe zones where assailants know they can act without repercussion. Instead of fortifying institutions as places where students feel protected, universities are being absolved of responsibility, pardoned for looking away. The message has been made clear; if you are assaulted, it is no one's problem but your own.